

to hear next fall from such as are willing to study the shells left in and about deserted nests, and to watch the process wherever they have the opportunity; also the time required for the down to burst forth from the enclosing sheath or envelope. I have known this to cause a difference of opinion as to whether the young of a certain bird were dark slate-color or pure white, when it was only a matter of the difference of some hours or days in their age. The skin and cylindrical hairs were dark in this case, but the down was white. Each was looking at the other side of the traditional shield.

[Plate II represents the Black Duck Group in the American Museum of Natural History, New York City. The nest, young birds, and accompanying accessories were collected by Mr. Jenness Richardson, on Gardner's Island, New York, May 9, 1889, by whom also the group was mounted at the Museum. This group is No. 46 of the Museum series of bird groups prepared by Mr. Richardson. — ED.]

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## FIFTH SUPPLEMENT TO THE AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION CHECK-LIST OF NORTH AMERICAN BIRDS.

BY ORDER of the Council of the American Ornithologists' Union the Committee on Classification and Nomenclature of North American Birds has prepared the following report on the species, subspecies, and changes of nomenclature proposed during the year ending November, 1892, forming the Fifth Supplement to the American Ornithologists' Union Check-List. The Committee met in Washington, Nov. 18-19, 1892, with the following members present: Allen, Chapman, Coues, Merriam, and Ridgway.

The numbers at the left of the scientific names facilitate collation with the Check-List. The interpolated species and subspecies are numbered in accordance with the provision made

therefor in the Code of Nomenclature. (See page 14, last paragraph.)

Committee	}	ELLIOTT COUES, <i>Chairman.</i>
		J. A. ALLEN.
		WILLIAM BREWSTER.
		FRANK M. CHAPMAN.
		CHARLES B. CORY.
		D. G. ELLIOT.
		H. W. HENSHAW.
		C. HART MERRIAM.
ROBERT RIDGWAY.		

## I. ADDITIONS.

310 c. *Meleagris gallopavo ellioti* SENNETT.

**Rio Grande Turkey.**

*Meleagris gallopavo ellioti* SENNETT, Auk, IX, April, 1892,  
167, pl. iii.

[B 458, *part*, C 379, *part*, R 470, *part*, C 553, *part*.]

HAB. Lowlands of southern Texas and eastern Mexico.

360 a. *Falco sparverius deserticolus* MEARNs.

**Desert Sparrow Hawk.**

*Falco sparverius deserticolus* MEARNs, Auk, IX, July, 1892,  
263.

[B 13, *part*, C 346, *part*, R 420, *part*, C 508, *part*.]

HAB. Southwestern United States, north to northern California and western Montana, south to Mazatlan in northwestern Mexico.

360 b. *Falco sparverius peninsularis* MEARNs.

**St. Lucas Sparrow Hawk.**

*Falco sparverius peninsularis* MEARNs, Auk, IX, July,  
1892, 267.

[B 13, *part*, C 346, *part*, R 420, *part*, C 508, *part*.]

HAB. Lower California.

454 a. *Myiarchus cinerascens nuttingi* (RIDGW.).

**Nutting's Flycatcher.**

[B 131, *part*, C 248, *part*, R 313, *part*, C 375, *part*.]

*Myiarchus nuttingi* RIDGW., Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus. V,  
1882, 394.

*Myiarchus cinerascens nuttingi* ALLEN, Bull. Am. Mus.  
Nat. Hist. IV, Dec. 1892, 346.

HAB. Southern Arizona, southward through western Mexico  
to Costa Rica. (Cf. FISHER, Auk, IX, Oct. 1892, 394.)

*Added to the Hypothetical List.*

II.1. **Numenius arquatus** (LINN.).

European Curlew.

*Scolopax arquata* LINN. Syst. Nat. I, 1758, 145.

*Numenius arquatus* LATH. Gen. Syn. Suppl. I, 1787, 291.

[B—, C—, R—, C—.]

Recorded as occurring on Long Island, N. Y. (Cf. MARSHALL and DUTCHER, Auk, IX, Oct. 1892, 390-392.) While there is no question as to the proper identification of the specimen, the evidence that it was taken on Long Island is not considered as entirely satisfactory.

II. CHANGES OF NOMENCLATURE.

It having been decided to recognize *Ardetta* GRAY as a full genus, instead of as a subgenus of *Botaurus*, Nos. 191 and \*191.1 will stand as follows:—

191. **Ardetta exilis** (GMEL.).

191.1. **Ardetta neoxena** CORY.

216 a. **Porzana jamaicensis coturniculus** BAIRD. This becomes

216.1. **Porzana coturniculus** (BAIRD). (Cf. RIDGWAY, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus. XIII, 1890, 309.)

391. **Ceryle cabanisi** (TSCHUDI). This becomes  
**Ceryle americana septentrionalis** SHARPE. (Cf. SHARPE, Cat. Birds Brit. Mus. XVII, 1892, 134.)

425. **Micropus melanoleucus** (BAIRD). This becomes

**Aëronautes melanoleucus** (BAIRD).

(Cf. HARTERT, Cat. Birds Brit. Mus. XVI, 1892, 459. *Aëronautes* HARTERT, gen. nov.; type, *Cypselus melanoleucus* BAIRD.)

It was decided to recognize *Calypte* GOULD, *Selasphorus* SWAINSON, *Stellula* GOULD, and *Calothorax* GRAY, as full genera instead of as merely subgenera of *Trochilus* LINN. This decision disposes of the question of *Trochilus floresii* GOULD (1861, nec *Trochilus floresii* BOURCIER, 1846) vs. *Trochilus rubromitratus* RIDGWAY. (Cf. RIDGWAY, Auk, VIII, Jan. 1891, 114.) The species of Hummingbirds numbered 430 to 437, inclusive, will hence stand as follows:—

- 430. **Calypte costæ** (BOURC.).
- 431. **Calypte anna** (LESS.).
- 431.1. **Selasphorus floresii** (GOULD).
- 432. **Selasphorus platycercus** (SWAINS.).
- 433. **Selasphorus rufus** (GMEL.).
- 434. **Selasphorus alleni** HENSH.
- 436.<sup>1</sup> **Stellula calliope** (GOULD).
- 437. **Calothorax lucifer** (SWAINS.).

### III. FORMS CONSIDERED AS NOT ENTITLED TO RECOGNITION.

*Vireo vicinior californicus* STEPHENS, Auk, VII, April 1890, 159. Not admitted on account of the insufficiency of characters alleged.

### IV. PROPOSED CHANGES OF NOMENCLATURE REJECTED.

*Columbigallina purpurea* MAYNARD (Am. Exch. and Mart., III, 1887, 33) vs. *Columbigallina passerina* (LINN.). (Cf. BERLEPSCH, Journ. f. Orn. 1892, 97.) Rejected on the ground that the hypothetical case upon which the name *purpurea* was tentatively proposed proves to be without foundation.

<sup>1</sup> No. 435, *Trochilus heloisa*, has been eliminated. (Cf. Auk, VIII, Jan. 1891, 88.)

*Geococcyx mexicanus* (GMEL.) vs. *Geococcyx californianus* (LESS.). (Cf. SHELLY, Cat. Birds Brit. Mus. XIX, 1891, 419.) Rejected on the ground that if *Phasianus mexicanus* GMEL. be identifiable at all it must relate to *Geococcyx affinis* HARTL. rather than to the more northern *G. californianus*.

#### V. ACTION DEFERRED FROM LACK OF MATERIAL.

Final action on the following was deferred, owing to the absence of necessary material.

*Megascops asio aikenii* BREWST., Auk, VIII, April, 1891, 139.

*Megascops asio macfarlanei* BREWST., Auk, VIII, April, 1891, 140.

*Megascops asio saturatus* BREWST., Auk, VIII, April, 1891, 141.

The availability of *Conuropsis* SALVAD. vs. *Conurus* KUHL (Cat. Birds Brit. Mus., XX, 1891, 203) was referred to a subcommittee to report thereon to the Committee of 1893.

In reference to the generic value of *Auostromus* (Cf. HARTERT, Ibis, April, 1892, 285), it was voted, in view of the insufficiency of the material available for examination, that for the present no change be made in respect to its status in the Check-List.

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ERRATUM.— In the Fourth Supplement to the Check-List number 567e (Auk, IX, Jan. 1892, 107) should be 567d.

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#### TENTH CONGRESS OF THE AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION.

THE TENTH CONGRESS of the American Ornithologists' Union was held in the Lecture Hall of the United States National Museum, Washington, D. C., Nov. 15-17, 1892. There were present during the session twenty Active Members and twenty-four Associate Members. The report of the Secretary gave the